

contesting or taking part in elections transitional authorities are responsible for organizing;

Whereas the African Union reaffirmed on August 3, 2021, the need for the Transitional Government to respect the 18-month transitional timeline for elections in October 2022 and reiterated that members of the TMC “shall not be eligible to be candidates for the elections at the end of the transition”;

Whereas the TMC released from jail approximately 300 people charged with crimes of opinion, terrorism, and harming the State in November 2021, in advance of a dialogue with armed groups in Qatar;

Whereas the TMC and several dozen rebel groups launched a pre-dialogue process in Qatar in March 2022, in advance of an inclusive national civilian dialogue in Chad scheduled for May 2022;

Whereas a peaceful and democratic Chad is essential for the stability and development of Central Africa and the Sahel;

Whereas Chad faces a dire humanitarian crisis due to threats posed by terrorist organizations and armed groups, regional instability, climate change, food insecurity, and decades of internal mismanagement and corruption by former President Deby’s government;

Whereas the April 2021 coup d’etat was inconsistent with the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which states that AGOA eligible countries must have established or are making continual progress toward establishing the rule of law and political pluralism; and

Whereas United States security assistance to Chad, which has long been prioritized over democracy, human rights, and development assistance, thereby contributing to the militarization of the former Government of Chad, should remain suspended until democratic elections are held and civilian rule is restored: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the April 2021 military takeover in Chad as a coup d’etat;

(2) stands with the people of Chad in their democratic aspirations;

(3) supports the African Union’s call for transitional authorities, including General Mahamat Deby and members of the TMC, to—

(A) organize elections by October 22, 2022, in accordance with the 18-month timeframe articulated by the TMC; and

(B) commit publicly not to stand as candidates in the elections they are responsible for organizing;

(4) calls on General Mahamat Deby and leaders of the TMC to—

(A) immediately release all of those arbitrarily arrested during the April-May 2021 protests;

(B) ensure that security forces respect rights related to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression and hold accountable security force members responsible for excessive use of force or other human rights abuses;

(C) publicly commit not to run in elections;

(D) abide by the 18-month transitional timeline for restoring civilian rule via free, fair, and peaceful democratic elections and return to their barracks;

(E) support an inclusive national civilian dialogue by ensuring that all parties may participate freely and openly;

(F) commit to respecting freedom of expression, opinion, the press, and access to information to include unimpeded internet access for the people of Chad; and

(5) calls on the Secretary of State to—

(A) identify coup leaders and their accomplices and enablers working to undermine a democratic process in Chad for consideration

for visa restrictions and targeted financial sanctions where available;

(B) state publicly that those who perpetrate human rights abuses or works to undermine the democratic process in Chad, including by impeding freedoms of peaceful of assembly, expression, or association, including related to press and access to information, will be held accountable, which could include through visa restrictions and financial sanctions where available;

(C) publicly urge TMC leaders to abide by the 18-month transitional timeline, restore civilian rule, and publicly commit not to run as candidates;

(D) monitor, discourage, and deter any effort by external parties to support the extension of the TMC’s mandate or otherwise delay or interfere with the restoration of civilian rule via free, fair, and peaceful democratic elections;

(E) coordinate with other Federal departments and agencies to—

(i) suspend non-humanitarian bilateral assistance to the Government of Chad, including security assistance, until civilian rule is restored via free, fair, and peaceful democratic elections;

(ii) prioritize support for an inclusive civilian national dialogue by ensuring the participation of opposition party members, civil society leaders, women, and youth;

(iii) prioritize support for a free, fair, and peaceful electoral process by working with electoral authorities, political party representatives, and members of civil society in Chad;

(iv) support, as appropriate, efforts to draft a new constitution;

(v) ensure that the United States bilateral policy towards Chad is fully aligned with the broader policy for the Sahel called for in the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Program Act of 2022 (division AA of Public Law 117-103); and

(vi) ensure future assistance is appropriately balanced between defense, diplomacy, and development; and

(F) direct the Department of the Treasury to use the voice and vote of the United States in international financial institutions to ensure there is a mechanism for civil society to have input into the development and oversight of programs and activities being funded, and that support provided through such instructions prioritize the restoration of civilian rule, including through free, fair, and peaceful democratic elections.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress: Elizabeth McAlindon, Jordan Rupli, Steven Szucs, Alexis Vance, Mark Fraenkel and Boaz Campbell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 12, and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later

in the day and morning business be closed; that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Vazirani nomination, postcloture; further, that all postcloture time be considered expired at 11:30 a.m.; further, that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Dettelbach nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; and that if cloture is invoked on the Dettelbach nomination, all postcloture time be expired at 2:30 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday’s session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator PORTMAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. First, I want to thank my colleague and cofounder and cochair of the Senate Ukraine Caucus for his comments today.

What you just heard was that the White House has sent the application for membership to NATO for Finland and Sweden to the U.S. Senate. It now goes to our committee, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and then, I hope, to the floor soon. I suspect there will be an overwhelming vote because everybody in this Chamber understands the importance not just of NATO expansion but of these two countries in particular.

I thank my colleague for offering those words today, and my hope is we can move very quickly on that.

REMEMBERING SHINZO ABE

Mr. PORTMAN. Before we talk about Ukraine, this has been a time over the last couple of weeks since we were last here in session of a lot of change and volatility around the world.

I want to begin by expressing my shock and sorrow over the assassination of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. I know I speak for all Americans when I express my deepest condolences to the people of Japan for this tragic loss.

Prime Minister Abe was a dear friend to the United States and a leader in building new coalitions in the Indo-Pacific to support democracies in the region and counter the nuclear threat from North Korea and China’s various malign influences.

When I visited Japan a few months ago with a bipartisan group of Senate colleagues, I saw firsthand the changes